



Snapshot

Sun City Photography Club Newsletter

March 2024



President's Corner

Tracey Smith

2024 Photography Club President

Spring is here! Well, it's been here temperature-wise for a while, now, but Mother Nature hasn't let on. I love the change of Winter into Spring. That baby green the trees show with their new leaves. The babies the does show off ever so briefly. Then, the bluebonnets get me every time.

Spring is a time of renewal. A coming out of hiding (especially when I lived in Minnesota). It's like the Earth is doing its stretches as it wakes up in the morning—getting those juices flowing!

I start seeing things differently, like those new colors and life springing from the ground. People, too, seem to have a certain pep in their step. I start looking for new things to photograph. Of course, the club's SIGs and the field trips always provide inspirational ideas. So, what are you seeing?



*General Meeting March 27th
2:00 - 4:00 with Social Time: 1:30 - 2:00
Georgetown/Florence Room, Cowan Creek*

Kathy Adams Clark – March



Kathy will be doing a presentation on the “Art of Seeing” with three follow up workshops. Her workshop topics are:

1. Composition
2. Travel Photography
3. Creativity Sparks - Lighting a Fire

To find out more about Kathy’s work, please visit her website at:

<https://www.kathyadamsclark.com/About.html>

*Photography Club Training & Events
March 2024*

March 6 & 8, 10:00 - 12:00: Landscape Photography (Class Full)

March 15, 1:00 - 3:00: How to Photograph the Eclipse

March 26, 12:30 - 2:30: Composition

March 27, 9:30-11:30: Travel Photography

March 28, 9:30 - 11:30: Creativity Sparks, “Lighting the Fire”

To sign up for a class offered by the Photography Club, follow these steps:

- Sign in to the Sun City website
- Go to the Photography Club’s website
- Select Calendar and navigate to the appropriate date Click on “Register” for the class
- Make sure you click on “Save Registration”

*Photography Club
Name Badges*

Need a Photography Club Name Badge?

There will be a name badge sign up sheet at the next general meeting, March 27th. When signing up, include a check for \$12 made payable to SCTXCA, or pay in cash. The name badges will be available at the following month's general meeting.

Let's Go! Field Trips

Texas Photo Festival - March 16

The Texas Photography Festival provides an exciting opportunity for photographers of all skill levels to capture the beauty of Georgetown, Texas. The festival's goal is all about having fun while learning and improving your skills through hands-on experiences. There will be photo walks, demos, and lectures from some of the best photographers in the business.

Cameron Park Zoo (Waco) - March 21

Cameron Park Zoo expands on over 52 acres near downtown Waco, Texas. With natural habitats and close-up encounters, the animal collection housed at Cameron Park Zoo includes more than 1,731 animals, representing 300 species. In August of 2009, Cameron Park Zoo opened the Asian Forest, featuring critically endangered Orangutans, Sumatran tigers, and Komodo Dragons. The animal care staff devotes a tremendous amount of time and energy toward providing the best of care, including training, proper nutrition, veterinary care, and life enrichment

Dance Empower - March 30

DanceEmpower is a family-owned dance studio that encourages teamwork, hard work, creativity, friendship, and respect for others while providing students with the highest level of technical and individual dance training. Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Modern, Hip-Hop are just some of the styles taught there.

"Pop-up" Field Trips

Pop-up Field Trips are spur-of-the-moment events that do not require all of the phone calls, emails, etc. to set up and get permission to do. These are public events that one can attend on their own or with a group. They do not show up on the Photography Club's website calendar and there is no need to register. Please click on the Pop-up Field Trip event you are interested in for further information.

- **Band Concert- Salado, TX - March 7**
- **Battleground 1863-Civil War Reenactment - March 9 & 10**
- **"Color the Sky" Kite Day at Garey Park - March 24**

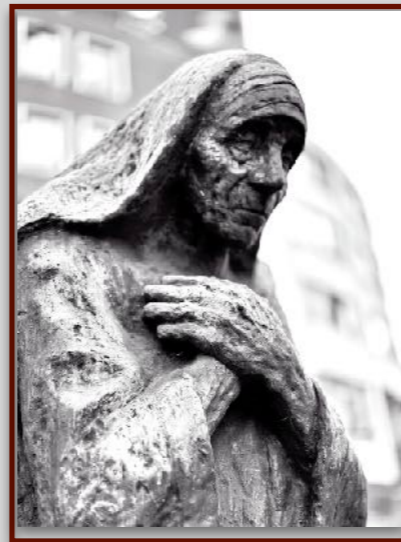
Photographer of the Month Cindy Brien



I got interested in photography when a friend in high school introduced me to the Arts & Craft Center darkroom at Ft. Hood and taught me about developing film. I entered a picture in high school contest and won a \$10 gift certificate to the local camera store where I bought more BW film. Alas, we moved away and I didn't have access to a darkroom anymore.

My husband & I moved here from Houston 13 years ago. I love to travel and have always enjoyed taking photos of what we see on our trips. A little over a year ago I went out on a bird photo shoot with a photographer and he kindly suggested I get out of Auto Mode with my Lumix DC-FZ80. I came back from that trip and checked into the SCTX Photography Club. They were holding a Get Out of Auto Class a few weeks after my return and I decided to learn more about my camera. I also attend the iPhone Photo SIG and upgraded to the iPhone 14 Pro Max, which takes great pictures. In fact, now on my trips I tend to use the iPhone almost exclusively.

The Photography Club has multiple SIG's and offers all types of classes in both taking photos and post production. Everyone in the club has been so helpful in sharing their knowledge and creative ideas to a novice like me. Getting out of auto is still a struggle for me and I am just dipping my toe into post production but I am loving the results and enjoying the wonderful photographs displayed throughout Sun City. We have some very talented Photographers to learn from and I am looking forward to continuing to enjoy this craft.



Each month a club member is featured to help all of us get to know each other just a little bit better. View **POM's** three printed photos at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center. More of Cindy's digital images are posted in a gallery on the club's website, along with her biography.

Meet Our Special Interest Groups (SIG's)

NOTE: If you want to make sure you get e-mails from any of the Special Interest Groups,

- Log into the main Sun City webpage, sctexas.org
- Select *My Memberships* on the left Navigation Menu
- Scroll down to Photography Club. There you will see all of the Special Interest Groups available through the club. Simply click in each box of the SIG you are interested in. The selection(s) save automatically.

All SIG meetings, with the exception of PSA Digital and PSA Print, are held in Game Rooms 1 & 2 in the Activities Center. The PSA Print and PSA Digital SIG's meet in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2. Please check the Photography Club's website calendar for exact dates.

For more information about each SIG, simply click on the name. You will be taken to each SIG's respective webpage.

Challenge - Led by Barbara Friedman, this is an online-only, no-meeting SIG for members to improve their photography skills through regularly participating in monthly challenges based on a provided theme. Any photo club member may participate – beginner or advanced, DSLR/Mirrorless or phone. The goal is to have fun practicing and learning.

All submitted photos must be taken during the month that the theme is active, i.e., members may not submit older photos. By restricting the dates in which photos may be taken, we hope to help participants practice their photography more often and to think more creatively about the theme.

iPhone Photography - Led by Bob Bearden. Monthly meetings are on the 1st Friday of the month from 9:30 - 11:30. This SIG offers information regarding topics such as: Key features or capabilities of the iPhone camera; informative videos; photo management & editing plus hardware reviews.

Outdoor Photography - Led by Deb Peak. Monthly meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month from 2:00 - 3:30 pm.

The goal of this SIG is to encourage members to capture nature in all of its splendor. All aspects of outdoor photography are accepted; landscapes, wildlife, flowers, plants--whatever you enjoy photographing in the great outdoors.

Photo Discussion Group - Led by Allen Utzig and Jim Newkirk. This SIG provides positive evaluations of members' images and gives suggestions to best improve their photos.

Special Interest Groups (SIG's) Continued

Photo Traveller SIG - Led by Marsha Larrabee. Monthly meetings are on the 2nd Monday of every month from 2:30 - 4:00. The goal of this SIG is to allow members to explore the genre of travel photography. Travel Photos, as defined by the Photographic Society of America (PSA), seek to capture the essence of a culture, landscape, cityscape, or custom of a place in a way that enables the viewer to experience the scene virtually through the photograph.

PSA Digital Image SIG - Led by Jim Reichel. This SIG is for members who would like their photos chosen to represent the club in the Photographic Society of America's (PSA) Projected Image Division Interclub Competition. The next meeting is on March 18 at 1:00 pm in the Activities Center, Meeting Rooms 1 & 2.

PSA Print – Led by Glenn Rudd and Cheryl Janssen. This is for members who would like their printed photos chosen to represent the club in PSA's Print Division Interclub Competition. The next print selection meeting is on March 20, from 9:00 - 11:00 am in the Activities Center, Meeting Rooms 1 & 2.

Street Photography - Led by Jerry Meinzer, Jim Newkirk and Randall Best. This SIG is for members who are interested in taking candid photos in public places to tell stories. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month from 9:30 - 11:30 am.

Treasurer's Report

To view the Treasurer's Report, February 1 through February 20, 2024, please **[CLICK HERE](#)**

The New Exhibit at Cowan Creek Amenity Center (by Carlos Rio)

There is something new at the Cowan Activity Center. The three photos of the “Photographer of the Month” remain. But the rest of the hallway is now dedicated to an exhibit of a single photographer, called “My Wall.” Some of us may remember a similar exhibit by the same name at the Activity Center years ago.

In January we saw David Werner’s excellent photographs, and in February Ken Johnston’s favorites from this past year or two were on display. He had three photos of the type we don’t often see in our club: “artistic” or abstract photos.

When it’s your wall, what you hang is up to you. It can be a potpourri of your best. Or, it can be a series from a project or subject that interests you—maybe all landscapes, cars, courthouses, or something from your vacations like “scenes from Venice” or “Birds of Africa”—whatever. It’s your wall, so you choose. For example, in March I will hang my project for the last year: Infrareds of Sun City.

The past two exhibitors have hung 14 photos each. You can do more or less, but you will need that many frames. Ken J. has gone all out with special matting and framing. It is an art gallery! Drop by in March to see a more minimalistic hanging system that I plan to use.

Since this “My Wall” is a new project for the club, the Board approached individuals to commit to hanging for much of the rest of the year. Please contact Allen Utzig to discuss the timing of your wall.

From the exhibits that have hung, I think it is worth your while to arrive early to our monthly General Meeting, or make a special trip every single month, to see the work of your fellow photographers.

Member Awards and Recognition



“Feelin’ Good”, Ken Johnston
1st Place Open Category

The Photo Club wants to acknowledge its members when they have received awards or been recognized for their work. If you have recently received an award for your photography, please send the details to Cathy O'Connor at cathy0114@gmail.com. You may include an image of your work, if you'd like it to be shown here

Rita and Ken Johnston entered the City of Richardson Photo Contest for 2024 in January, and the awards ceremony was just held on February 22 in the Eisemann Center in Richardson, Tx.

Over 350 entrees were submitted in the contest, and judged by three professional judges. Rita and Ken won 6 first place ribbons, and 14 ribbons overall in the Proficient Adult Division of the contest.

Both Rita and Ken won 3 First Place ribbons each in various categories.



“Life is Good”, Rita Johnston
1st Place People, Black & White

Website, Email & Snapshots

Cathy O'Connor, Webmaster - cathy0114@gmail.com

Marsha Larrabee, E-mail Blaster & Calendar Admin - marsha_larrabee@me.com

Submission Guidelines to Snapshots:

Articles must be received **by the 20th** of the month to be included in the next month's newsletter.

Lengthy articles may be edited to fit space. Links will be used for long articles.

Articles must be submitted digitally via email.

Photographs must be legally reproducible or licensed by the member submitting the photo. Include the Photographer's name, photo title, contest/show entered, placement received.

Newsletter Editor contact: Cathy O'Connor, cathy0114@gmail.com